



Docket No. ETH5081USNP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : R. Christopher Carney et al. Confirmation No.: 9095
Appln. No. : 10/718,122
Filed : November 20, 2003
Title : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LASER DRILLING WORKPIECES
Art Unit : 1725
Examiner : Maria Alexandra Elve

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

May 24, 2006
(Date of Deposit)

E. Richard Skula

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

/E. Richard Skula, Reg. No. 31,061/

(Signature)

May 24, 2006

(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This is a preliminary amendment for the RCE Patent Application filed on even date herewith. The remarks are responsive to the Office Action of January 24 2006 received for the parent application. That Office Action was made final by the Examiner. The period for response has been extended by one (1) month to May 24, 2006 by the enclosed Petition for Extension of Time.

Listing of the Claims. A listing of the claims begins on page 2 of this paper. None of the claims has been amended.